

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18 line 19 with the following:

Similarity analysis includes database search and alignment. Examples of public databases include the DNA Database of Japan (DDBJ)(<http://www-ddbj.nig.ac.jp/>); Genebank ([http:// www-ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Web/Search/Index.html](http://www-ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Web/Search/Index.html)); and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory Nucleic Acid Sequence Database (EMBL) ([http://www-ebi.ac.uk/ebi\\_docs/embl\\_db/embl-db.html](http://www-ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/embl_db/embl-db.html)). Other appropriate databases include dbEST (<http://www-ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/index.html>), SwissProt ([http://www-ebi.ac.uk/ebi\\_docs/swisprot\\_db/swisshome.html](http://www-ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/swisprot_db/swisshome.html)), PIR (<http://www-nbrt.georgetown.edu/pir/>) and The Institute for Genome Research (<http://www-tigr.org/tdb/tdb.html>).